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April 30, 1957

Department of Medical Genetics

Professor B. D. Davis
Pharmacology
N.Y.U. College of Medicine
New York 16, New York

Dear Bernie:

The Symposium Committee wishes to offer you a cordial invitation to participate in our forthcoming symposium as an expert commentator and discussion leader. The informal discussions will represent an essential part of our program, and we are relying on a number of distinguished scientists, including yourself, both to guide and to inform the small groups of workers in other fields who will make them up.

Some of the speakers in your own area of interest will include, we hope, Bruce Stocker on microbial genetics and infectious disease; Ruggiero Ceppelini the physiological genetics of the red cell antigens; John B. Graham on the physiological genetics of blood coagulation; also Pontecorvo on somatic cells.

We can offer your basic fare to Madison and back, to the extent of $125 plus your maintenance while here.

I will be very pleased if you can signify your acceptance. The enclosure gives more details of organization, and will be supplemented by bulletins from time to time. Please do not hesitate to write me if you have any questions, and in particular if this invitation can be revised in any way that would be more congenial to you.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL:nhn

P. S. As you know, we are going to Australia beginning about August 1 and this is one of several reasons I am anxious to get all of this correspondence out of the way well before then. We will be back in good time for me to give a Harvey lecture which is now scheduled for December 19. I am looking forward to seeing you then, if not sooner.

You may be interested that some of the new stable L colonies that we have been isolating from E. coli K-12 in the course of their proliferation with penicillin have proved to be, you know what, DAP-auxotrophs. This is a very hopeful start on our search for other comparable metabolites.

JL